# Slowing fall in Victorian payroll jobs

Media Release

**Released** 8/09/2020

**Source:** Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia, Week ending 22 August 2020

Payroll jobs across Australia fell by 0.4 per cent over the month to 22 August, according to figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) today.

Bjorn Jarvis, head of Labour Statistics at the ABS, said: "Over the month to 22 August, payroll jobs fell by 2.0 per cent in Victoria while for the rest of Australia, payroll jobs rose 0.1 per cent. While payroll jobs continued to fall in Victoria into the third week of August, it was at a slower rate than earlier in the month."

Nationally, payroll jobs at 22 August were 4.2 per cent below mid-March, when Australia recorded its 100th confirmed COVID-19 case. Payroll jobs in Victoria were 7.9 per cent below the level reported in mid-March, compared with 2.9 per cent for the rest of Australia.

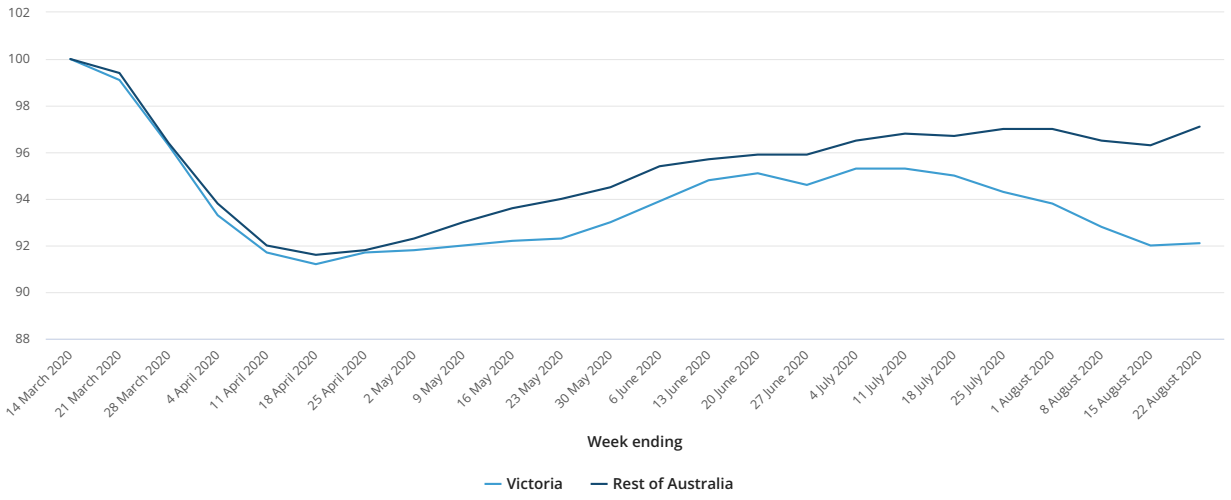
Across Australia, payroll jobs in the Accommodation and food services and the Arts and recreation services industries have suffered the largest losses during the COVID-19 period.

"While Accommodation and food services and Arts and recreation services have recovered close to half (40 per cent and 49 per cent) of payroll jobs lost since the low point in mid-April, they remain 21 per cent and 14 per cent lower than mid-March," Mr Jarvis said.

"These industries remain particularly hard hit in Victoria, where payroll jobs were 38 per cent and 23 per cent respectively below mid-March," Mr Jarvis said.

In mid-March, the four industries with the largest share of payroll jobs (41 per cent) were Health care and social assistance; Retail trade; Professional, scientific & technical services; and Education & training. By 22 August, these industries were back to over 96 per cent of the payroll jobs recorded in mid-March.

Payroll jobs, indexed to the week ending 14 March 2020




Further information is available in Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia (cat. no. 6160.0.55.001).

The ABS would like to acknowledge the continued support from the Australian Taxation Office in enabling the ABS to produce the statistics, providing weekly insights into the Australian labour market.

## Media notes

- This release includes information on payroll jobs paid through Single Touch Payroll enabled software to the Australian Taxation Office.
- In each release, as more complete data are received, payroll jobs and wages estimates (including percentage change movement and indexes) are revised.
- While the ABS accounts for employees being paid with different frequencies, there are points in the year when additional reporting activity is more likely to occur, which may flow through to published estimates.

- Jobs by Industry subdivision estimates through to the week ending 22 August will be added to this release on Wednesday 9 September 2020.
- The additional ABS products being published to understand the economic impact of the coronavirus can be found on the ABS COVID-19 page. (https://www.abs.gov.au/covid19)
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